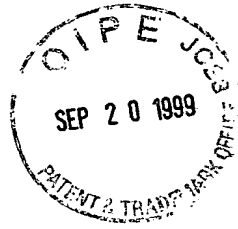


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Reasoner
Serial No.: 09/115,764
Group Art Unit: 3682
Filed: 07/15/98
Examiner: V. Luong
For: Conduit Shortening Adjustment Assembly



#12
GP3682

AMENDMENT

SEP 22 1999

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

SEP 22 1999
RECEIVED

Dear Sir:

Applicant responds to the second non-final Office Action from the
Examiner mailed August 16, 1999 as follows:

REMARKS

The Drawings

The Examiner has objected to the drawings. The Examiner has indicated that the drawings do not show every feature of the invention specified in the claims, in particular "shortening the overall length of the first and second conduit sections." No overall length of the first and second conduit sections is claimed; rather, the spring biasing the components together to shorten the overall length of the first and second conduit sections is claimed and is sufficiently illustrated in Figure 3. Figure 3 shows the coil spring 22 biasing the components together to shorten the overall length of the first and second conduit sections (14,16). The spring is shown in Figure 3 to bias the components together to shorten the overall length of the first and second conduit sections. It can be appreciated from Figure 3 that the coil spring 22 biases the male